GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1614
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2015
POLLUTION IN SUTLEJ RIVER
Saraswati Shri Sumedhanand

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether discharging of untreated sewage and industrial effluent in Sutlej river and its tributaries and canals of Rajasthan at Harike has been reported to the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (PROF.SANWAR LAL JAT)

(a) Indira Gandhi Canal originates from Harike Barrage at Sultanpur, a few kilometres downstream of confluence of river Sutlej and Beas in the State of Punjab. Treated / Untreated effluents from domestic sources and industries are being discharged at the upstream of Indira Gandhi Canal into river Sutlej and Beas.

(b) It is the responsibility of the State Government/ Concerned local bodies to setup proper facilities for collection and treatment of sewage being generated and ensure that untreated sewage does not fall into the rivers, thereby polluting them. This Ministry is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in pollution abatement in identified stretches of various rivers through the centrally sponsored schemes of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for implementation of projects on cost sharing basis between the Central and State Governments. The pollution abatement schemes under NRCP are sanctioned from time to time on the basis of proposals received from the State Governments.

Under the NRCP, for conservation and pollution abatement of river Sutlej and Beas schemes pertaining to interception and diversion of sewage, sewage treatment plants, crematoria, afforestation,, public participation & awareness, etc. are being implemented in 14 towns in Punjab viz. Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Phagwara, Phillaur, Hoshiarpur, Kapurthala, Banga, Bholath, Dasuya, Moga, Mukerian, Nawanshahar, Sultanpur Lodhi and Tanda at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 717.32 crore.

Sewage treatment capacity of 546.2 million litres per day (MLD) has been created so far under the NRCP in Punjab. In addition, sewarage infrastru- cture is also being created in Ludhiana and Jala- ndhar under the Central Sector Schemes of Ministry of Urban Development as well as in towns through State Government funding.